MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOD TIMES

VOLUME 21 NO.1 PAW PAW, MICHIGAN - OCTOBER 1994

STUDENT COUNCIL RAISES $

Off to a good start, the 94-95 student council fund raiser netted $4600 through the sales of jewelry, Christmas wrap, and cards.

First place for homerooms was Mrs. Swanson's eighth graders. Runners-up were Mrs. A. Smith's , Mr. Cassell's, and Mr. Lutz's classes. Each room is planning a pizza party to celebrate.

The top salespeople were Ian Berner and Dan Cabras, both with 36 items sold. Joe Ritsema sold 35 and Jake Greensly sold 29 items. Good work!

MEET THE NEW COUNCIL

The 8th graders on council this year are Derek Bell, Mandi Pyard, Jeff Hodges, Josh Ernstes, Rene Rennhack, Jenny Jennings, and Scott Watts. Alternates are Lindsay Smith, John Clark, Jeremiah Ewert, and Scott Wielenga.

The 7th grade is represented by Matt Goretzka, Samantha Allen, Paul Farber, Brandon Hewitt, Angelo Rotunno, Jennifer Tenant, Dan Cabras , and T.J. Sell. Alternates are Patt Wheat, Carrie Kowalczyk, Maggie Coleman, Chris Peshl, Jeff VanDusen, Zach Hansen, Brain Longshore and Maria Barnes.

The 6th graders are Matt Campbell, Chris Veley, Emily Pasman, Mike Haught, Steve Wolownik, Jason Motter, and Chris Van Sickle. Alternates are Jessica Ross, Jessica McDaid, Kerri Champion, Katie Anderson, Alacia McConnell, Amanda Knoll, and Drew Olman.

The officers are president Josh Tessar, vice-president Julie Vesey, secretary Suzzanne Overacker, corresponding secretary Jessica Price, and treasurer Don Sellon.

HOMECOMING! LOTS of FUN!

Not only did Paw Paw win the homecoming game last Friday night but PPMS also had a lot of fun times during the week.

This year we did posters to hang on the fence at the football game. Fans and teachers came to Friday's game.

In school we had contests to see how much spirit Paw Paw Middle Schoolers have. The sixth graders had the most for the three dress up days, which included casual day, flannel day, and red and white day.

by m. rains

PPMS BAND PLAYS TONIGHT at the LAST HOME GAME of SEASON

The Paw Paw Pride and the Paw Paw Cadet Bands will join together for a half-time performance at the last football game of the season tonight.

The selections will include "All Hail to Paw Paw High", "Meet the Flintstones", and "The Raiders' March" from Raiders of the Lost Ark. It promises to be a night of fun

and football, and unfortunately, the last of the season. AG, RB, JA

DEAR FILBERT, a column designed to help you with your problems.

DEAR FILBERT,

I am upset because we can't go to the dances since we're in 6th grade,

An unhappy 6th grader

DEAR A.U.6th gr.,

I reall can't help you with this one. I'd have to say, "Good things come to those who wait."

FILB

DEAR FILBERT,

I am disgusted with the bathrooms. I think it's gross to see cockroaches or whatever when you wash your hands.

Grossed out kid

DEAR G.O.K.,

Talk to the janitor, tell your mom, but alas, all we can do is publish your letter.

DEAR FILBERT,

I hate riding the bus. It is so smelly, hot, and bumpy. The bus drivers are mean and cranky. What should I do?

CRanky

DEAR C,

Get a fan, a clothespin and seat cushions and suffer like all the rest of us.

FILB

DEAR FILBERT,

I'm in 8th grade, I need to know. Am I too old to trick or treat? But I want candy..I need candy, candy, candy, and more candy.

The Candy Freak

DEAR C.F.,

Settle down there, Trigger. You can have candy and go trick or treating. Just don't go overboard.

FILB

Write to FILBERT care of Mrs. Swanson's mailbox in the office or take to room 203.

GOOD TIMERS STAFF MEMBERS

Katie O'Keefe, Kerrie Hamilton, Heather Houston, Ahlea Streich, Rosemary Beyer, Winonah LaGRande, Jericho Groenland, Andy Goodman, Todd Freeman, Rene Rennhack, Justin Avery, Angela Reidt, Jake Greensly, Alison Hathway, Kristen Cooper, Joy Shinabarger, Lindsey Forward, Samantha Allen, Kim Holcomb, Angelina Holt, Jon Ayres, Bethany Howell, Andrew Alexander, Sarah Lounsbury, Michelle Rains, Tabitha Staggs, Dustin Mount, John DiPrima, Jack Conway, Josh Myers, RJ Manning, Angela Creameans, Kristin Crowder, Brandon HEwitt, Alison Surdy, Dan Shreve, Casey Kern, Natalie Alden, and Patti Wheat.

94
95

SUBSCRIPTIONS... see Mrs. Swanson if you want to buy a subscription or an individual issue ($.50) available the Monday after delivery.

CHANNEL 1 VIEWER POLLS by todd freeman

True or false. Does Anderson Cooper use a Flobil?

True or false. Does TRacy Smith inhale Equal and use too much toner?

Tell me how I'm feeling
Tell me what I dream
Tell me I'm just acting
Tell me how I seem
Tell me who I hate
Tell me who I like
TEll me how I rate.
Tell me you are right
Tell me how I am.
Tell me how I look
Tell me all you can.
Tell me you can read me like a book
Then, I'll tell you something
Although you won't agree,
Only I know what I'm thinking,
Because only I know me.
tess terpstra

Ms. Staniszewski Student Teaches

Ms. S. attended Olivet College and will be graduating December 2 with a B.A. in English and art. She is also a member of Sigma Beta sorority and played college softball for two and a half years.

She lives with her grandparents because her parents moved to South Carolina. In the summer she goes to South Carolina and works with underprivileged children who come from drug-abuse families and mostly single-parent families. She teaches these children to swim.

Something she is proud of is that she will be getting her B.A. in December. When she was younger she didn't want to attend college and now she understands how important it really is.

Ms. Staniszewski's future plans include going to Florida after graduation to visit some very close friends. Another plan is to get a teaching job right after graduation.

PPMS is where she is learning to become a teacher by working with Mrs. Beyer. She has lived in Paw Paw all her life.

She can't name a person she would look up to as a role model. She feels everyone has done something in this world at one point or another.

Upon graduation she plans to get a job in the area and to buy a Mustang or a Camaro.

She would like to see the enitre world happy , with no refugees stranded between here and Haiti but the chances of that happening are slim.

by m. rains

BLACK CAT

Once I saw a big black cat
who was with a man
in a big black hat.
On top the hat sat a big black bat who was fat.
After I passed the big black cat, and the man with the hat underneath a big bat
I saw another black cat.

by forward/shinabarger

USED JOKES...ala Mr. EDINGER (shared with you by his 8th gr. fans)

Why did the one-handed man cross the road? He wanted to go to the second-hand store.

What did Nathanial Bacon's dalmatian say when the Indians attacked? (Ready?) I've been spotted. HA HA Ho!

MEET MRS. GRATZ by winonah

Mrs. Gratz us the new special education teacher at the middle school. She went to college at Michigan State and Grand Valley State.

She has a ten-month-old daughter named Kayleigh. Her husband's name is Dan. She doesn't have any pets.

In her free time she fixes up her home. She does cross-stitch, needlepoint and calligraphy.

She decided to teach because she likes kids and she thought it would be neat to help kids get a good start on their future.

Her plans for her own future are to stay at Paw Paw and maybe go back to college. Her summary of Paw Paw is ,"The kids are great and it's been a lot of fun so far."

WILL HOBBS COMES TO PPMS

Will Hobbs, author of several books that take place in the Southwest, spoke with readers of his books Tuesday here at the middle school.

The sixth and seventh graders may have had the chance to have Bearstone read to them these last few weeks. The book itself comes out of some of Hobbs' childhood experiences in Alaska. As a teenager, he hiked along the Muir Trail along the crest of the Sierras and later he worked as a guide at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico.

Bearstone itself is set in southwestern Colorado where Will has lived since 1973. He has taught English in the public schools.

Will had a long time itch to write, he says. He didn't sit down to write though until the summer of 1980. Bearstone was published in 1989.

Hobbs had six different manuscripts of Bearstone. It took eight years to reflect his early development as a writer. Since then he has written several other books, including the one that may have been read to some of the eighth graders, The Big Wander.

by l. forward

SEVENTH GRADE BBALL TEAM FINISHES UP A GOOD SEASON

A team members included Angie Ferrari, Maggie Coleman, Jenna Wright, Brandi Coyer, Lindsey Mendenhall, Sarah Carr, Jennifer Tenant, Laura Sutherland and Abby Wolownik. Their coach was Mandy Wright.

The B team was made up of the following: Angelina Holt, Kristen Smith, Angela Creameans, Nelli Kuntz, Elaine Bussema, Stace Kennedy, Amanda Shipley, Jessica, Slate, Tereasa Gerard, Kristen Millek, and Veronica Degroff. Their coach was Kathy DeVolk.

YEARBOOK SALES...part 2- DECEMBER...part 3 FEBRUARY

If you are reading this article now and you don't have a yearbook, there could only be a few reasons why.

One, you can't afford one, two, you don't think you need one, or three, you are procrastinating. If you are procrastinating you are have missed the first sale, and the lowest

price of the year.

On the week of December 5-9, bring $17 to Mrs. Reisterer. She will also sell the book to you in February but it will cost $18 by then.

If you still don't get it by then, maybe, but highly unlikely, she may have one or two left over in May. Don't bet on it though.

She is also in need of artwork of Indians, feathers, and tomahawks etc. When you draw a picture for her, draw it in pencil first. Then go over it with black pen or marker on the outline and the details. If you need supplies , see her.

If your drawing is used, she will shrink it and put it in the yearbook.

Keep the next sale date in mind. (They make good Christmas presents.) Remember this year (1994-95) will only happen once. Don't miss out. by rj manning

SIXTH GRADERS PARTY TONIGHT

A Halloween party will be held tonight at the McDaid house outside of Paw Paw. The party will last from 7:00 to 9:30.

Party-goers got a map of how to get there when they purchased their tickets. Should be a fun night for all.

BUY YOUR WREATH YET?

Make your grandma or mom or Uncle George happy at holiday time. Buy 'em a wreath for the door outside (the $10 version) or an indoor one for $20. PTO is sponsoring a fund-raiser.

GEOGRAPHY BEE

Question: Which island is not in the West Indies? Cuba or Bermuda?

If you know the answer to the question above, why not sign up for the Geography Bee? The Bee is open to all 6th, 7th and 8th graders.

There are three rounds . The first is the preliminary round held in December. The top ten scoringfrom the Preliminary round move on to the school championship bee, held in January. The school championship round is an elimination competition. You are eliminated if you answer two questions incorrectly.

If you win the school championship, you take the state qualifying test. If you pass the test, you move on to the state championship bee held April 7th , 1995. In that bee you compete for a first place prize of $100, a book and a trip to Washington ,D.C. Second place if $76 and a book, and third place is $50 and a book.

The contest is sponsored by National Geographic Society. You sign up with your social studies teachers and learn more information from them later.

Thanks to Mrs. Pasman for the information and by the way, the answer is Bermuda. by a.streich and r. beyer.

PENCILS etc.

Pencil sharpeners
Eat
Nice pencils.
by b. fluty

WHY?

Have you ever noticed that everything in the stores is $10.99, $5.99, $29.99 etc.? Why not just say $11, $6, $30? It makes everything sound cheaper. That's why. But they didn't add tax in yet.

Or, have you noticed that gas stations charge $1.09 9. Who do they think pays 9/10 of a cent? I mean get real, people. Who cares if something looks more expensive if you add one cent? People are not that dumb. They know $1.99 means really $2.05. It would be much easier if they told the real price instead of making it seem like a bargain. Actually stoes are lying. Something is advertised at $5.99 and you must pay $6.35. It's a stupid concept.

by w. lagrande

SURVEY SAYS...

We recently asked people what they thought about sixth graders going to the dances. Out of the people polled, 18% want sixth graders there, 41% don't care and another 41% would rather they didn't go. k.h., h.h., & c.o.

Another poll taken on this issue asked for individual responses. Amanda Knool is on student council and she said ,"It stinks" because she feels they can handle themselves and some people don't think so. Jon Ayres says he is glad he's not going because he says they're are boring. Paul Reidt says, "It's not fair because in the years before all of the 6th grades have gone." Many people we talked to said it stinks.

by a.l.

WHAT SCARES YOU THE MOST?

by j.conway and a. alexander

You would be glad to know that it you are scared of ghosts, you aren't alone. We asked over twelve non-Channel One students what scared them most. The results were, well, scarey.

Anne DeCou is scared by tornadoes, her brother and bees. T.J. Gould is scared to death at the mention of Channel One. Many people are scared of Nothing, one of whom is Don Dean. Brett Coady is frightened by the moon. (Hope he is a morning person.)

Matt Lawson does not like ugly girls with facial hair. Dan Shreve is scared by the people who talk about the end of the world. The dentist haunts the dreams of Dan Fox. Zach Erickson won't be going back to the future. He'd terrified of it.

Jim Hagg is scared by the Chucky Cheeze Pizza Rat. Eric Grehl dislikes No Fear. Big cities go bump in Heidi Begnoches' night. Josh Tessar's hair stands on end when he sees ghosts. "I'm not scared of anthing...besides ghosts," said Josh.

SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH?

German class begins next Thursday (Donnerstag) during seventh hour for eighth graders who have signed up with Mrs. Swanson and who have permission of their reading teachers.

The class will explore beginning German and will hopefully write letters to students in

Bavaria who are studying English.

The Bavarian middle schoolers are even planning to send a video to PPMS since they received ours from last year.

PARENTS

When you come home late,
They say you're bad,
When you're full of hate
They think that's sad.
When you make them wait
That gets them mad,
Wouldn't it be great
If they'd just be glad?
by k. hamilton

HALLOWEEN COSTUME SURVEY

Recently we did a survey to see what costume middle schoolers chose for Halloween. The results were outrageous.

21 people said they wanted to be one of the Might Morphin Power Rangers. Oddly enough, no one said they wanted to be Billy!?? 43 people said, "Nothing" or "I don't dress up."

45 people let out the truth and admitted they're going to dress up for Halloween Night. Here are a few of our favorites.

Jessica Baugher said a monk was the best choice. Jessica Bennet and Melissa Kovach both chose to be the devil's wife. Crystin Crowder wanted to go on the lighter side and be a bride. A pumpkin was the decision of Dawn Dean and Jessica Ross.

Brad Fluty chose the vampire for his costume. Moriah Floyd went for the traditional black-robed witch. Dan Fox chose to be Casper the Friendly Ghost. Sara Gray went for the intellectual decision by deciding to be a graduate.

Richard Hirst chose to be a football player. Carrie Kowalczyk will be a boxed-in mime. Lee Krefman said he would like to be a streaker. Camilla Laviolette chose to be a Native American. Michelle Miller and Dave Williams said they think the best choice is to be a bum.

Amanda Shipley said she would enjoy going as Barney. Ben West said he would like to dress up as one of the fighters from Mortal Kombat II. Our only teacher responding was Mrs. Pasman who said she would be patriotic and dress up as Uncle Sam.

Thanks to all the teachers for taking the class time to let their classes do our survey and to all middle schoolers who responded.
by a. alexander

THIS IS THE DAY

This is the day
This is the day that children
laugh and play
This is the day that kittens
meow.
This is the day that mothers
clean.
This is the day everything is
in its place.
by c. swinehart

EIGHTH GRADE HOOPSTERS

The A team consists of the following people: Amy Baltmanis, Jessica Price, Mandi Thomasma, Jericho Groenland, Lindsay Boysen, Julie Vesey, Carla Cabras, Kristen Nugteren, and Rene Rennhack.

The B- Team includes Suzzanne Overacker, Jessica Baugher, Dawn Dean, Jenny Hulbert, Lindsay Smith, Winonah La Grande, MArtha Rohrbacher, Mandy Pyard, Renee Harris, Sarah Mitchell, Angela Reidt, Jenna VanAtta, and Heidi Wilhelmi.

The season draws to a close but it's been a great one and a lot of fun for all.

DON'T JUDGE ME

Don't judge me by my looks
Don't reject me because of my face,
Get to know me.
Before you decide my place.
Don't criticize my actions
Until you know the reason why
Keep your mind open.
Keep the hope of friendship alive.
Don't despise me without reason,
Just give me a chance
To prove the good I have inside,
Take time to discover
The feelings that I hide.
Never hate with only one look
Give me the chance I deserve.
Look and see and you will find
The love in me.

by t. terpstra

DANCE OPINION SURVEYED

Do you like the dance? Why or why not? Many responded yes to this and said they liked crowded dances. Sixth graders filled up space.

What would make it better? Longer would help said, a few, while cooling down the gym was also suggested. Many would like to be able to go to their lockers. Some thought there should be no Vanilla Ice?

What didn't you like? Some felt it was much more strict than last year. The music was too loud. We'll go deaf! DJ's played too many old songs. We weren't born in the sixties.

Would you rather have a dance or an activity night? Feelings were mixed. Some said activitty nights are best.. and basketball especially. Dances are best 'cause activities get old fast. Dances let you be goofy. One great idea seemed to be "Combine them.. might not geel as left out with them."

How 'bout we have one every two weeks? was one idea.
As you can see many people had mixed feelings about everything. People were able to fit sixth graders into every questions, usually for the good. by ajc

HALLOWEEN STORY WINNER!

A Halloween Tail/ a. goodman

On a stormy August night, a despied cat awaited its doom. He had been tied to a pole that was erected at the very top of a medieval house in a clearing.

Suddenly a white blinding light turned her calico fur to ash. The rope, singed, broke, setting free the cat's body. It slid down the pole and rolled off the roof into a ravine leaving a trail of ash.

Winessing the horrible event ,

the cat's owner sat in his bed, an evil grin growing wide upon his face. The City! The cat had enough electricity running through her to power New York City!

The owner took the cat and buried her in a field miles away from the house. She was missing a tail. The owner, when asked about his cat, told only half the truth.

"Hey, where's your cat?"

"She ran off last August and got struck by lightening."

"Oh, I'm sorry."

One day the owner came home to find five bulging envelopes full of ash and cat fur. He immediately through them out. The next day he got five more, and the next , and the next. On garbage day he set out his usual rubbish plus three bags of cat fur and ash.

When he got home the bags of ash and fur were still there. The next morning he took them to the dump himself and when he got home, they were back on his curb!

He left them alone. On Halloween night, October 31, he had a dream of a cat asking for something for his tail back.

He awoke in a cold sweat, clutching something furry. A tail! He felt a sharp pain in his hand and saw scratch marks. Then a meow as loud as a cannon was followed by a low grumble, "Give me my tail!"

The tail in his sweaty palms was snatched away and he never heard from his cat again.

THE GUN SHOT

We were in the truck camper ith my sister in August one afternoon. My parents had gone on a rafting trip and my grandma was a t the store. My grandpa was sleeping. I was in the camper because my sister and I were getting our stuff to play house.

Suddenly, we heard a gun go off! I grabbed my neck and screamed, " I want my mama!"

My cousin Robbie took me to Lakeview Hospital where I was treated. I had a fratured nose, which needed surgery and a wound on my neck. The gun shot we heard had hit me in the nose and neck.

by c. swinehart

ARE YOU ORGANIZED?

1. You wake up. You have 15 minutes to get ready for school. What do you do?

A. Go back to sleep. You're not gonna make it so why bother?

B. Skip breakfast and rush everything else. Take hot lunch.

C. Don't worry. You've got yourlunch packed since last night. Your clothes are hanging up and your bag is packed.

2. You're looking for your home work . It's in your notebook . How long does it take you?

A. under one minute

B. one minute - two minutes

C. over five minutes

3. Rate the cleanliness of your locker. (1 -10)

A. 10-7
B. 7-4
C. 4 and under

4. How do you pick out your clothes?

A .Blindly reach in and pull something out.

B. Grab a clean t-shirt and some ok jeans

C. Color coordinate your socks with your shirt and matching pants.

5. When do you do your homework?

A. The hour before it's due

B. Right before you go to bed or in the early morning

C. Right when you get home to get it out of your way

Give your self one point for each A, 2 for each B and 3 for every C.

(5-9) You are what I woud call a procrastinator. You put off everything. Your room usually is a mess. Try putting things in an order you can remember.

(10-14) You can be organized if you want to. Most of the time you just don't want to. Try to want to more. But don't go overboard.

(15) You are perfect and don't need this survey but will no doubt put the newspaper nicely away and eventually recycle it. by w.l.

OPINION / LETTERS TO THE GT reflect the individual author's opinions on a topic

SIGNS OF GANGS or OVERREACTION?

Lately one of our administrators has been giving out detentions or ISS for things like wearing a baseball cap backwards or a a red bandanna on spirit day. The claim is that these objects are signs of gangs. Get real! If there are gangs , they know better than to go around proclaiming it. This whole issue is useless. Somewhere someone is using black high top sneakers , for example, as a gang sign. Or maybe they are using red glasses. Do we know? You could pick out anything and odds are it's some gang's sign. The only way to avoid this is to put us in uniforms and we're none too eager for that.

This comes down to paranoia and over-reacting. This is not necessary. Now people are wearing thses things to how far they can push this administrator.

by w. la grande

DEAR EDITOR

The hat situation makes no sense . Some people wear their hats only backwards . They are getting detentions for it. It doesn't matter that we can't wear our hats backwards since we can't wear hats in the building anyhow. Wearing them outside is a different story. Adults can tell us what to wear inside but outside that's taking it a bit far. On school grounds we should be able to wear what we want to. In closing, we suggest this be a student council subject for discussion.

by m.abbott and m. johnson

ROAD KILL CAFE

This is a great place. There are fresh burgers, cold drinks, and crisp fires shaped like animal feet

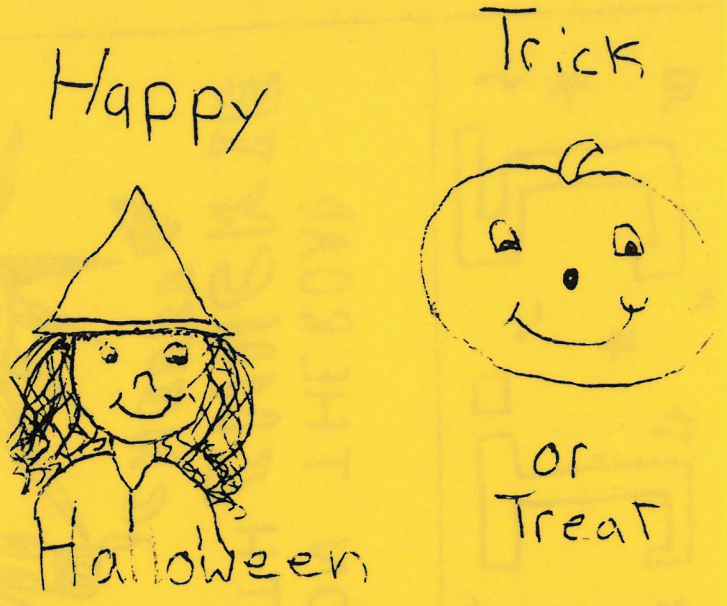
and tails. The service is good, lines are short and price is low. If you haven't been there , don't say the food is gross and soggy.

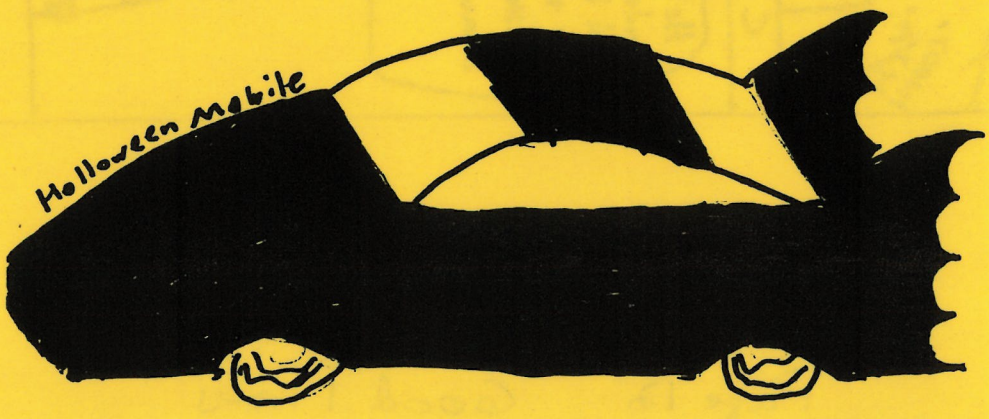
b.fluty

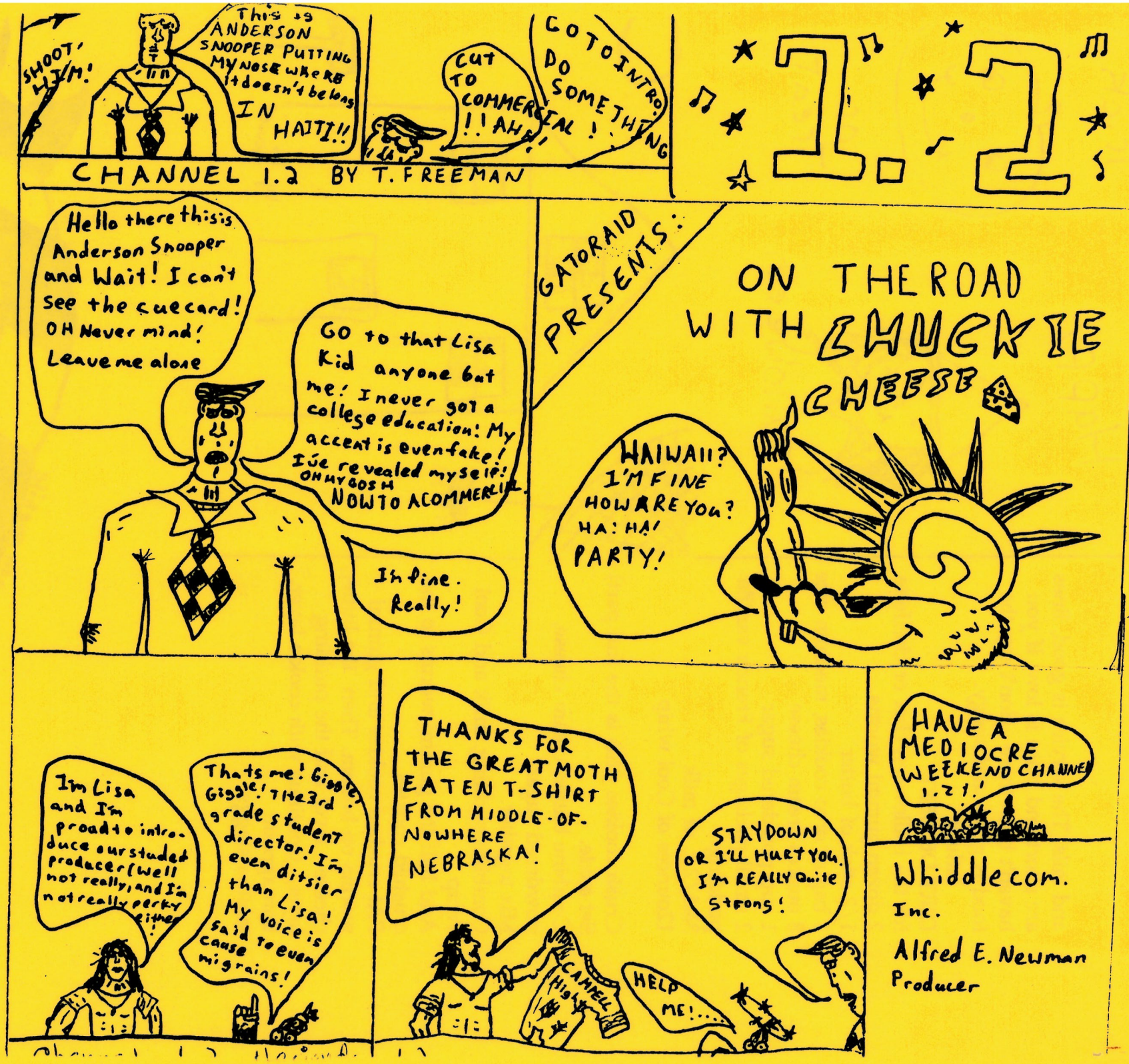
DIRT DESSERT

for the Halloween chef or cheffette
2 dozen gummi worms
1/2 stick of butter
1 bag of oreo cookies, medium size
8 ounces cream cheese
1 cup powdered sugar
2 small packages of French vanilla pudding
3&1/2 c. of milk
12ounces of Cool whip

Crush cookies (this is the fun part)
Set aside.
Combine butter, cream cheese, powdered sugar
Mix together.
Combine pudding, milk and Cool Whip
Add half the gummi worms to the crushed cookies.
PAt crushed cookies and gummi worms on bottom, Then the butter, cheese layer and the pudding layer, Continue with cookie layer.
Bon appetit!
tabitha staggs






SHOOT! HIM!
This is ANDERSON SNOOPER PUTTING MY NOSE WHERE it doesn't belong IN HAITI!!
CUT TO COMMERCIAL!! AHA!
GO TO INTRO. DO SOMETHING!
CHANNEL 1.2 BY T. FREEMAN
1.2
Hello there this is Anderson Snooper and Wait! I can't see the cuecard! OH Never mind! Leave me alone
GO to that Lisa Kid anyone but me! I never got a college education! My accent is even fake! I've revealed myself! OH MY GOSH NOW TO A COMMERCIAL
I'm fine. Really!
GATORAID PRESENTS:
ON THE ROAD WITH CHUCKIE CHEESE
HAIWAII? I'M FINE HOW ARE YOU? HA! HA! PARTY!
I'm Lisa and I'm proud to introduce our studed producer (well not really, and I'm not really perky either!
Thats me! Giggle! Giggle! The 3rd grade student director! I'm even ditsier than Lisa! My voice is said to even cause migrains!
THANKS FOR THE GREAT MOTH EATEN T-SHIRT FROM MIDDLE-OF-NOWHERE NEBRASKA!
CAMELL High
HELP ME!...
STAY DOWN OR I'LL HURT YOU. I'm REALLY quite STRONG!
HAVE A MEDIOCRE WEEKEND CHANNEL 1.2!

Whiddle com. Inc.

Alfred E. Newman
Producer